

Meeting with Bellway Homes re Building Safety Remediation

10 March 2021 10:15-11:00

MS Teams

Attendees:

Minister for Housing and Local Government
Andy Backhouse, MD of Wales Division, Bellway
(Redacted information) Group Special Project Director, Bellway
Paul Lawler, Group Head of Communications, Bellway
(Redacted information), Building Safety Policy Manager, Welsh Government
Sara Faye, Special Advisor, Welsh Government
(Redacted information), Private Secretary, Welsh Government

The Minister is meeting with a number of developers to discuss what steps they are taking to support remediation of buildings with safety defects and engagement with residents. Intends to hold further discussions and bring a number of large developers working in Wales together to see how we can collaboratively resolve this complex and important issue.

Bellway are working with the Prospect Place development in Cardiff. Work is currently underway to remove ACM cladding and this extends to replacing the entire wall system (including connected fire barriers and installation). They previously arranged a waking watch which was latterly replaced with a £1m upgraded alarm system to assist with changes to evacuation policy. All this was covered by Bellway with no additional cost to leaseholders.

Bellway have employed a PR company to coordinate communication and there is constant communication with residents on the works including regular newsletters, provision of a dedicated contact number for residents, and they are currently developing a supporting website. Bellway are in regular communication with the management company and managing agent - they are aware of tensions between the two which they believe could result in confusion or miscommunication with residents but they are not involved in this.

The company agreed to engage in further discussions on how to resolve issues with existing defects and will provide a response to relevant aspects of the White Paper.

PL to share contact information that WG can pass on in relevant communications with concerned residents/leaseholders.